



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
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USDA TO SURVEY PORK PRODUCERS FOR INVENTORIES AND FARROWING INTENTIONS

HARRISBURG, PA - Beginning in late February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will contact pork producers and contractors nationwide for the March Hogs and Pigs survey. The agency will survey pork producers for detailed information on market hog and breeding stock inventories as well as farrowing intentions.

"Through the quarterly Hogs and Pigs surveys, NASS measures and reports conditions and trends in the U.S. pork industry over the course of the year," said Northeastern Regional Director King Whetstone. "This first survey in late-winter will help gauge the condition of the industry as it enters 2016."

Producers who receive the survey questionnaire in the mail can respond via the Internet, mail or fax. Producers who don't respond in one of those ways will have the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview.

As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

"By responding to the March Hogs and Pigs Survey, producers make sure that NASS can provide timely, accurate and objective data that all sectors of the U.S. pork industry, including producers themselves, depend on to help make sound business decisions," added Whetstone.

Survey results are published in NASS' quarterly *Hogs and Pigs* report, scheduled to be released March 25. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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